

PATENT

Docket No. 54989US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Richard P. RUSIN et al.) Group Art Unit: 3732
Serial No.: 09/383,560)
Confirmation No.: 6747) Examiner: Ralph A. Lewis
Filed: 26 August 1999)
For: CERAMIC DENTAL MILL BLANKS)

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 20 March 2003, please enter and consider the following remarks.

Remarks

The Office Action mailed 20 March 2003 has been received and reviewed. The pending claims are claims 55-79. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the remarks presented herein.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 55-79 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Oden et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,127,375) in view of Rostvall '871 (WO 98/36871) and Rostvall '796 (WO 99/13796). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

"To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness . . . there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. . . . The